

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 021723Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0906

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 17202

EXDIS

NESCO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO, US

SUBJECT: UNESCO-ISRAEL: ACTION ON EUROPEAN REGIONAL
GROUP RESOLUTION AT 98TH UNESCO EXECUTIVE BD.

1. SUMMARY: PERMDEL SUBMITS HEREWITH INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION ON ISSUE OF ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP IN UNESCO EUROPEAN REGIONAL ACTIVITY GROUP. PERMDEL PROPOSES (A) TEXT FOR DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION AT 98TH EXBD SESSION (SEPT. 15 - OCT. 10); (B) THAT BOARD CHAIRMAN (WYNTER, JAMAICA) BE CONSULTED RE FEASIBILITY OF THIS INITIATIVE AND ON LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION; AND (C) THAT ADVANCE DEMARCHE BE MADE BEGINNING SEPT. 1 IN MOST CAPITALS OF COUNTRIES REPRESENTED ON BOARD WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON WEO'S, PARTICULARLY FRANCE, IN VIEW DECISIVE NATURE OF THEIR SUPPORT. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION, WHICH BASED LARGELY ON 18 GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTION 46.1 WITH FINAL PARAGRAPH REAFFIRMING LATTER'S PROVISION FOR 19 GENERAL CONFERENCE TO TAKE ACTION ON MEMBER STATES, I.E. ISRAEL ALONE, NOT YET ADMITTED TO APPROPRIATE REGIONAL GROUP:

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QUOTE: RIGHT AND DUTY TO PARTICIPATE IN REGIONAL

ACTIVITIES.

RECALLING THAT RESOLUTION 46.1 ADOPTED BY THE 18TH GEN. CONFERENCE "RECOGNIZED THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE WHERE-BY EVERY MEMBER STATE HAS THE RIGHT AND DUTY TO PARTICI-PATE FULLY AND REGULARLY IN THE ORGANIZATION'S REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES."

ENDORsing THE STATEMENTS MADE BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR THE NEED FOR UNIVERSALITY, AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND CONSENSUS.

DESIROUS OF HELPING TO INSURE THAT ALL MEMBERS EXERCISE THE RIGHT AND PERFORM THE DUTY OF PARTICIPATING IN THE ORGANIZATION'S REGIONAL ACTIVITIES.

RECOMMENDS TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE THAT AT ITS 19TH SESSION IT TAKE STEPS TO INSURE THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION ARE EMPOWERED TO PARTICIPATE IN REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THE REPRESENTATIVE CHARACTER OF STATES IS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR. END QUOTE.

3. ALL BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE AWARE THAT ISRAEL BEING REFERRED TO IMPLICITLY BY TEXT. EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO ISRAEL WOULD BE FLATLY IMPOSSIBLE OF GAINING MAJORITY SUPPORT AS INDEED WOULD ANY LANGUAGE REFERRING HOW-EVER INDIRECTLY TO ACTIONS OF 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE RE ISRAEL IN REPROACHFUL OR CONDEMNATORY TONE.

4. PERMDEL, IF DEPARTMENT APPROVES OF THIS TEXT, WILL SEEK THROUGH SECRETARIATE AND BOARD CHAIRMAN WYNTER TO HAVE ITEM INSCRIBED ON PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF BOARD BUSINESS, RATHER THAN HAVE IT SUBMITTED AS AMENDMENT TO AGENDA, IN ORDER TO KEEP INITIATIVE AS LOW PROFILE AS POSSIBLE AND LIMIT CHANCES OF CHALLENGE.

5. STRONG SUPPORT OF WEO'S ON BOARD (AUSTRIA, BELGIUM FRANCE, FRG, ITALY, NORWAY, UK, AS WELL AS AUSTRALIA AND, IF POSSIBLE, SPAIN) IS INDISPENSABLE TO PASSAGE OF RESOLUTION. SIMILARLY, TACIT ACQUIESENCE OF ARABS, OR CONFIDENTIAL

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AT LEAST NO MORE THAN THEIR PRO-FORMA OPPOSITION, WILL BE IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON OTHER BOARD MEMBERS. ARAB BOARD MEMBERS ARE FROM EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA, TUNISIA, AND MAURITANIA. SUPPORT SHOULD ALSO BE SOUGHT FROM SELECTED LA'S, (CHILE, COLOMBIA, URUGUAY, JAMAICA AND BRAZIL), ASIANS (PHILIPPINES, NEPAL, INDIA, IRAN AND JAPAN) AND AFRICANS (DAHOMEY, GHANA, KENYA, TOGO AND UPPER VOLTA).

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 17202

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6. SOVIETS, AND THROUGH THEM BOARD MEMBERS OF BULGARIA AND GDR, AS WELL AS YUGOSLAVIA, AS EUROPEANS SHOULD BE ASKED TO ABSTAIN IF THEY CANNOT SUPPORT RESOLUTION.

7. DEMARCHE TO WEO'S, ESPECIALLY FRANCE WHOSE NEGATIVE POSITION ON THIS ISSUE ONLY PARTIALLY REFLECTED IN FINAL "ABSTENTION" AT LAST GENERAL CONFERENCE VOTE, COULD STRESS THAT RESOLUTION IS IMPORTANT, ALTHOUGH NOT DECISIVE, MOVE TOWARDS RESTORING ACTIVE US PRESENCE IN UNESCO. IT CLEARLY NOT IN EUROPEAN INTEREST TO LEAVE VOID THAT SOVIETS - EE OR OTHERS MAY BE TEMPTED TO EXPLOIT. DG M'BOW OF NECESSITY WILL HAVE LAUNCHED APPEAL TO ALL MEMBERSTATES IN JULY FOR NO-INTEREST LOANS TO MAKE UP FOR NON-PAYMENT OF US CONTRIBUTION. SOVIETS, CHINESE AND ARABS LIKELY TO RESPOND FAVORABLY IN ORDER ENHANCE INFLUENCE ON UNESCO PROGRAM CONTENT AND ORIENTATION. SAME GENERAL THESIS COULD BE USED IN DEMARCHE TO LA'S, ASIANS AND AFRICANS.

8. RE ARAB STATES, AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, ARABS HERE HAVE INDICATED THAT EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP QUESTION NO LONGER CONSIDERED AN ARAB ISSUE. ARABS CAN REASONABLY ABSTAIN ON MEASURE THAT WOULD MOVE TOWARDS ENABLING UNITED STATES TO RESUME PROPER ROLE IN UNESCO. EGYPT-IANS, SAUDIS AND TUNISIANS CLEARLY MOST INCLINED TO

GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO RESTORING US PRESENCE
HERE. AS A MINIMUM THESE AND OTHER ARAB MEMBERS HAVE
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NO REASON TO GO BEYOND PRO-FORMA "NO" VOTE AND LOBBY
AGAINST RESOLUTION.

9. SOVIETS WHO HAVE CONSISTENTLY EXPRESSED CONCERN
OVER UNESCO BUDGET HAVE CLEAR INTEREST IN COOPERATING,
OR AT LEAST ACQUIESCING IN MOVES THAT WILL WORK TOWARDS
RESTORATION OF US CONTRIBUTION TO UNESCO. CHINESE IN
PARTICULAR ARE LIKELY TO RESPOND TO DG'S APPEAL FOR NO-
INTEREST LOANS.

10. TIMING OF DEMARCHE SHOULD BE SEPTEMBER 1; SOON
ENOUGH BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15 BOARD OPENING SESSION, BUT
NOT SO SOON AS TO FALL INTO VACATION GAPS OF FOREIGN
MINISTRIES.

11. COMMENT: PERMDEL WOULD STRESS THAT ABOVE RECOM-
MENDATIONS ARE PREDICATED ON ASSUMPTION THAT CURRENT
ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION WILL NOT HAVE WORSENED SIGNIFI-
CANTLY BY TIME OF BOARD SESSION. ANY CRISIS THAT MIGHT
ARISE IN MID EAST WOULD REQUIRE IMMEDIATE RE-CONSIDERA-
TION OF MOVING AHEAD WITH EVEN THIS MODEST INITIATIVE.
ARABS VOTED AND LOBBIED AGAINST ISRAELI ADMISSION TO
EUROPEAN GROUP AT UNESCO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE AS
MATTER OF EMOTIONAL REFLEX. FURTHER, DEPARTMENT SHOULD
KEEP IN MIND POSSIBILITY THAT MEMBER-STATES MAY REACT
ANGRILY IN SEPTEMBER, WHEN IMPACT OF US NON-PAYMENT OF
ITS CONTRIBUTION WILL BEGIN TO BE FELT BY ORGANIZATION,
TO ANY INITIATIVE BY US WHICH COULD BE PERCEIVED AS
COERCIVE.

12. AS THIS WOULD BE US INITIATIVE, RESOLUTION WOULD
BE INTRODUCED IN NAME OF US EXBD MEMBER AND HE WOULD
BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF AND RESPOND-
ING TO DEBATE THAT WOULD SURELY ARISE. THEREFORE, URGE
DEPARTMENT FULLY BRIEF EXBD MEMBER PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE
FOR EXBD MEETING.

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